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Sgt. Akilah C. Clarke

Pvt. 2 Clayton Harper, an anti-armor specialist with the 10th Engineer Battalion, fires a live missile from the Javelin.

One shot, one kill

Marne troops hit mark with Javelin

Sgt. Akilah C. Clarke
Editor

The Javelin has finally found its place with the 3rd Infantry Division (Mech).

Although it was introduced to the Army almost six years ago via the Ranger Regiment, soldiers with the 10th Engineer Battalion and the 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment got a chance to be the first in the division to experience the 'fire and forget,' anti-tank missile during a live-fire exercise held Dec. 1 in Kuwait.

Due to a number of system improvements, the Javelin outshines its predecessor, the Dragon, by a long shot, according to Maj. Eric Fletcher, Army Close Combat Missile Systems.

In addition to having a range of 2,500 meters, almost twice as long as the Dragon, the Javelin's soft launch system allows the shooter to fire and move to either reload or find a new position. The system includes an imaging infrared site, which can be used in the daytime and at night.

"The site system uses an infrared scope and thermal imagery to detect the target," Fletcher said. "Once the soldier locks on target, a seeker inside the missile remembers the direction."

Although \$78,000 a shot might seem a little pricey to some, the cost of each missile is worth it when compared to the

damage it causes, Fletcher said.

"It's really a drop in the bucket compared to other weapons systems," he explained. "Think, you drop a round in one of these for \$78,000, but it defeats a tank and those cost millions. So, it's a pretty good return on your investment."

Pfc. Daniel Ranson, a gunner with A Company, 10th Engineers and Pvt. 2 Clayton Harper, an anti-armor specialist with A Company, 3-15th, were selected to be the first to fire the system. Both soldiers earned the honor by being the top scorers during Javelin qualifications held at an earlier date.

"It's high speed – a lot better than the AT-4," Ranson said. "It's meant for rapid deployment – you can set it up, fire and be gone in a matter of minutes."

Harper echoed Ranson's sentiments, saying the Javelin was a significant improvement over systems such as the AT-4 and the Dragon.

He went on to point out the importance of allowing soldiers an opportunity to use the weapon in the environment it was created for.

"I feel this is good training – we're out here in the desert doing what we actually train for," he said. "Some of this stuff we can't do back home at Fort Stewart, but out here we have enough space. It's good to do real live training."

Having proved itself in Afghanistan, the Javelin is slated to be fielded soon to the 3-15th. A number of engineer, armor and scout units are also scheduled to receive the system.

Explosives 101:

Engineers practice element of trade in demolition exercise

Sgt. Akilah C. Clarke
Editor

These soldiers get to blow stuff up – literally.

The soldiers of the 10th Engineer Battalion got to put their skills to the test during a munitions certification exercise held Dec. 2 at the Udairi Range Complex.

Using such material as C4, Bangalore torpedoes, cratering charges and other explosives, the soldiers practiced priming demolitions and setting up blast systems, according to Capt. John T. Tucker III, A Company, 10th Eng. commander.

“As combat engineers, part of our trade is demolitions. It’s dangerous work, but we mitigate the risk,” he explained. “Safety is a big thing here, so we identify the hazards and reduce those risks down to an acceptable level.”

The unit’s mission consists of providing mobility and counter-mobility for a maneuver element, according to Tucker. Therefore, it must be capable of clearing the way and providing safe passage for other elements to follow.

“The scenario can range from finding unexploded ordnance on the ground to clearing mines or wire out of the way,” he said.

Having access to Kuwait’s large expanse of terrain allows the soldiers a better opportunity to get quality training, according to Tucker.

“There is an advantage to being here,” Tucker said. “Fort Stewart has restrictive terrain, but what we found out here is that we’ve got a lot of freedom to maneuver around.”

The soldiers are aware that although they are participating in a great training opportunity, due to the serious nature of their jobs, they have to stay alert and aware of all that occurs around them, Tucker said.

“When dealing with landmines, we have to be very careful, because what you do will not only affect yourself, it will affect your squad around you,” explained Pvt. 2 Robert Williams, combat engineer, A Company, 10th Engineers. “You can’t just look out for yourself, you have to look out for everyone, because the slightest mistake can cost you your life and the lives of everyone around you.”

But with teamwork, focus and confidence in their training, the soldiers are able to ensure the mission gets accom-



Sgt. Akilah C. Clarke

Sgt. Jason Millet, a combat engineer with the 10th Engineer Battalion, prepares a field-expedient Bangalore.

plished, Williams said. “It’s all basically teamwork – if you don’t have teamwork, it can’t be done. There is no person in this unit that is more important than the other, because at any time the next man can be taken out and you’ll have to step up to the plate,” he explained. “So, you have to know everyone’s job.”

Frontline Forward

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Keeping illness and injury away

Spc. Adam Nuelken
Staff Writer

With the desert climate changes and communal living, it is important for soldiers to know how to stay clean and healthy. To better help soldiers deployed to Camp New York, the Frontline Forward sat down with Lt. Col. Bill Corr, the division surgeon for the 3rd Infantry Division (Mech.), to answer a few questions on how to stay healthy.

Q: How do you help soldiers?

A: "Currently we are helping by ensuring the medics are trained to be able to take care of wounded soldiers, be able to MEDEVAC them and also to coordinate evacuations to higher echelons of care."

Q: What is the mission for the medics here at Camp New York?

A: "The main mission for the medics is to provide care for the soldiers here. The medics are augmented by both physician assistants and professional filler assistants from Fort Stewart and other installations in the south-east region. We have a variety of different specialties at the battalion aid stations, and at Camp Doha we have a full spectrum of medical care specialties."

Q: What is the rate of soldiers going to sick call?

A: "Sick call rates are no different than they are in the States. The leading causes of sick call are muscular and skeletal injuries because soldiers are continuing to do PT here."

Several common injuries we see are knee and back pain. There are some things soldiers can do to prevent (chronic) pain. For example, knee pain

can be reduced by wearing the proper running shoe. There are specific running shoes that soldiers can buy that are best for their arch. Other illnesses we see are skin disease, particularly with the dry weather out here. There are things



Spc. Jacob Boyer

A medic with the 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment's aid station gives a soldier his first Anthrax shot.

people can do to prevent skin rashes because of the dryness. That includes using moisturizing soap and avoiding long, hot showers because hot water takes away the moisturizing and natural oils of the skin."

Q: What other injuries or illnesses can soldiers easily prevent?

A: "Many of the conditions encountered here in the desert are preventable. Another leading cause of illness is respiratory disease. Because of the dust out here and the climate, people tend to have a lot of colds and upper respiratory infections. Soldiers can prevent up-

per respiratory infections by not smoking, because smoking causes people to be more likely to get upper respiratory infections. Hand washing is also important – many cold viruses are spread by the hands, so if a soldier washes his hands frequently, he can prevent upper respiratory disease. Finally, because soldiers must share tents, they should sleep head to toe so they won't breathe each other's breath during the night."

Q: How is food preparation inspected?

A: "Our preventive medicine section and also our 2nd Brigade Combat Team surgeon have inspected common food preparation sites, and they continue to inspect them. Diarrhea is a concern that can be prevented by hand washing, particularly after going to the latrine and before eating."

Q: How can soldiers prevent rodent and pest problems?

A: "Rodents are relatively well controlled. Rodents, flies and other pests are attracted by food, so avoiding eating in the sleep area is one way to avoid pests. Don't eat in your tent. Eat at the dining facility. Eat far away

from where you work and where you sleep.

Q: How is the Anthrax vaccine being accepted?

A: "The Anthrax shots have been well received because soldiers and the Army community overall realize that Anthrax as a biological weapon is a threat, and the vaccine is a very good way to protect soldiers. Most soldiers find there are some side effects to include a sore arm, and some folks get what is called the Anthrax bump, a lump underneath the skin, that will last several weeks to months."

Force protection essential in Kuwait

By Spc. Adam Nuelken
Staff Writer

Recently, two Directorate of Public Works employees were shot at outside Camp Doha. A few days later, a non-tactical vehicle was rolled in the desert.

It is important for all soldiers to understand what force protection is and how to protect themselves.

"Force Protection is the security and awareness of our soldiers when traveling both stateside and abroad," said Master Sgt. Norm Hampton, division provost marshal sergeant major. "Under the circumstances in which we are deployed right now, force protection is very important. Because we are in a potential situation to go from a training environment to a real world situation, the security of our soldiers and their awareness of their environment is critical."

When traveling between camps, soldiers can protect themselves by carrying live ammunition as well as following the proper speed limits.

"Inside the camps, the speed limit is 20 km/h. When you get outside the camps, traveling from one camp to another or to Camp Doha, the tactical vehicle speed limit is 50 km/h and the non-tactical vehicles are 60 km/h," Hampton added. "When you travel outside the camps, the magazine with ammunition goes inside the weapon, but you don't chamber a round. You keep the loaded magazine in your weapon just in case you encounter a situation where you need to utilize the weapon, so you're prepared for that situation."

Soldiers who work in sensitive areas like tactical operations centers and the division main deal with sensitive information regularly, but soldiers still need to be vigilant with any information they get.

"Working inside the division (command post), there's a lot of classified material that is discussed and utilized within the command post itself. Soldiers are briefed before working in the TOC or the DMAIN about the sensitivity of what they see, what they discuss and what they encounter," Hampton said. "They are briefed thoroughly on what they can say and cannot say and what information they can take in and out of the TOC. Most everything, even personal letters and so forth, are put in a burn bag and destroyed at the end of the day. Most everything that is discarded in the TOC is burned."

Another big concern is information going back home in letters and being used on family or personal homepages. Soldiers who use these personal pages need to be wary of the information placed on it.

"(Web site security) goes along with how soldiers are briefed as far as how they discuss and handle any information while they are forward-deployed. Even if they're not working in the TOC, operational security is always critical when we're in a real-world or training environment," Hampton



Spc. Adam Nuelken

Warrant Officer Marcus Ortiz, a soldier with the Analysis Control Element, clears his weapon.

explained. "Make sure the information that we have is guarded whether or not it's classified because you cannot be too sure — what you talk to your parents or friends or family about back home you may think is insignificant but could be a valuable piece of information to someone else."

Kuwait still remains a relatively safe deployment for soldiers, but with the tension in the region it is important for them to be cautious when traveling about and even abroad.

"Under the circumstances I think Kuwait is as safe a deployment as Bosnia. We're in a theater that is under a little more tension than most others around the world. But I think the surroundings and the environment we are in is just as safe as any," Hampton continued. "I would say anywhere outside the United States, there is a certain level of threat against any U.S. servicemember. There should not be any sense of the feeling of 'it's not going to happen to me.' Their mindset always needs to be in the sense that there is a potential threat, and they ought to always have a sense of awareness around them. Never be complacent — just continue to be aware of your surroundings and never let your guard down."

Hangin' a round

A mortar platoon with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Division practices firing 120 mm mortars during a training exercise held Dec. 2 at the Udairi Range Complex.



Sgt. Akilah C. Clarke

Feeding the multitude

Food service specialists work long hours to keep soldiers full

Spc. Jacob Boyer
Staff Writer

Any soldier deployed to Kuwait knows there is a lot of work to do. Days off, if they ever materialize, are a rarity, and everyone has many tasks to accomplish before each day is through.

But for some soldiers, the day begins before the rest even think of waking up, and ends long after chow and showers are out of the way.

The food service specialists running the dining facilities in the camps fall under that category.

Soldiers working the early shifts start working at 4 a.m. to prepare breakfast, and those working the late shift usually do not finish until 8 p.m., said Staff Sgt. Lida Powell, a senior food service operations sergeant with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 10th Engineer Battalion.

"A lot of times soldiers see us in our tents during their duty day, and they don't realize we're working just as much as they are," she said. "Then they have to do KP and realize we actually do a

lot of work."

The Skybridge Dining Facility and Le Marne Cafe' serve breakfast from 7 to 8:45 a.m., and dinner from 5 to 7 p.m.

The cooks start their day by preparing the breakfast meal, Powell said.

At the Skybridge Dining Facility where she works, 500 to 600 soldiers come through for each meal.

"There are some long lines at points, but at others it can get quiet," she said.

After breakfast, the staff cleans the dining tent, orders rations and ensures that the entire site is cleaned, Powell said.

Then the process is repeated for dinner, with the meal coming from the Country Kitchen, where meals for all of the camps are prepared.

Even when the head counts are lower, the job does not get any easier, said Spc. Travis Miller, a food service specialist with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Infantry Division (Mech.). Le Marne Café, which serves between 200 and 250 soldiers each meal, can be just as hectic.

"We're a little short-staffed, so ev-

erybody has to work more than usual," he said. "We get about five KPs a day, and we need them."

Many details go into the work at the dining facilities that the average soldier probably does not realize, Miller said.

"The ration detail is one many don't think about," he said. "We've got to make sure there is enough food here according to our head counts. If we run out, the soldiers aren't going to be too happy."

In addition to preparing meals, the staff is responsible for other soldier standards, Powell said.

They conduct physical training, sergeant's time and command maintenance regularly.

Even with all of the work required of them, the dining facility staff knows it is here to provide services for the other soldiers.

"Customer service is the key part of food service," said Miller. "Nobody wants to wake up and see a frowning cook. We take pride in our job to ensure all the soldiers get their chow. We'll do whatever we can do."

Gym offers workout for entire body

Spc. Adam Nuelken
Staff Writer

Soldiers serving on Camp New York have limited ways to pass time. Besides standing in a line at the post exchange or munching down on free ice cream at the Morale, Welfare and Recreation tent, soldiers can spend their time getting in better shape at the gym.

Although the gym lacks cardio-vascular equipment, the free weights inside can be used to work out the entire body.

"My take on it is the gym has all the basic equipment to work out all the body parts," said Command Sgt. Maj. Otis Smith, 2nd Brigade command sergeant major. "The facility has enough to keep the body in shape."

Even though all the gym has are free weights, soldiers still enjoy using it to help improve their Army Physical Fitness Test and pass the time.

"I always thought (the gym) could help improve that. It gives you something more than push-ups and sit-ups everyday," said Spc. Alma Bayone of A Company, 201st Military Intelligence Battalion. "Did I mention we are in the middle of the desert and there is nothing else to do out here?"

Bayone had one complaint about not having cardio-vascular machines, but the environment causes too much wear and tear to the equipment.



Spc. Adam Nuelken

Spc. Alma Bayone does crunches to increase her Army Physical Fitness Test score.

"There's a lot of stuff we'd like to have out here, but the problem is with all the sand and dust, it gets into the working mechanics and they go bad," according to Smith.

In the past, the equipment has broken down, and maintenance is too timely and costly. However, leaders have been working to expand the gym and add more equipment, but gym improvements are less important than setting up more housing, shower points, and powering the camp.

NCOs inducted into time-honored corps

Spc. Adam Nuelken
Staff Writer

No one is more professional than I. I am a Noncommissioned Officer, a leader of soldiers. As a noncommissioned officer, I realize that I am a member of a time-honored corps, which is known as "The Backbone of the Army."

About 40 noncommissioned officers were inducted into the corps Nov. 30 in a ceremony at the Camp New York chapel.

The ceremony represented the sergeants crossing from the enlisted ranks into the NCO corps.

"The impact of the crossing over from enlisted soldier to noncommissioned officer is a milestone in an enlisted soldier's career never to be taken lightly," said Master Sgt. Judd Sweitzer, master of ceremonies for the induction.

During the ceremony, command sergeants major, sergeants major and first sergeants spoke to the new NCOs on what their role is in the Army and how to take care of their soldiers.

"The choice of noncommissioned officers is an object of

greatest importance," said Command Sgt. Maj. William Barnello, command sergeant major for the 1st Battalion, 46th Armor, quoting Baron Friedrich von Stueben.

"The order and discipline of a regiment depends so much upon their behavior that too much care cannot be taken on preferring none to that trust, but that those who by their merit and good conduct are entitled too.

"In teaching their recruit, they must exercise all their patience, by not means of abusing them, but by teaching them with mildness and not expecting too much precision in their first lesson, punishing those only who are willfully negligent," Barnello added.

The importance of the sergeant is not to be taken lightly, especially when it comes to taking care of their soldiers.

"You probably have the greatest face-to-face personal responsibility in the Army," said Command Sgt. Maj. Santos Rivera, command sergeant major for the 26th Forward Support Battalion. "And the buck stops here at your level."

Following the speeches, Rivera poured seven bottles of liquid into a bowl, symbolizing the Army values and presented a toast to the new sergeants.

Soldier of the cross: Infantryman-turned chaplain receives special honor from Chief of Chaplains

Sgt. Akilah C. Clarke
Editor

Soldiers who first meet newly-promoted Chaplain (Capt.) Steve Hommel are a little confused at first.

His left collar bears the branch insignia of the Chaplain Corps. However, directly beneath it lie expert infantryman and air assault badges.

Ask Hommel how these two seemingly contradictions came to be, and he'll tell you the story of his first few years in the Army – as an enlisted infantryman.

"I came in the Army in 1989 as a private in the infantry. I was assigned to the 101st Airborne Division and I was right there during the middle of Desert Storm," he recounts.

Hommel spent seven months in the desert during the war serving as a fire team leader.

He reached the rank of sergeant, completed his enlistment and went back to college.

After completing seminary, Hommel served as a professor at Southern California Bible College and Seminary, and Christian Heritage College, teaching such subjects as world religions, evangelism, apologetics and theology.

Although content with his chosen profession, Hommel soon discovered that he had another destiny – to return to the Army.

But this time, he would not serve as an infantryman, rather as a chaplain.

"I was a chaplain candidate for several years. I was com-

missioned while I was going to seminary and getting practical training during the summer," he said.

Hommel went on to say he feels somewhat caught in the middle – but in a good way – as a chaplain.

"I like soldiers, because I was a soldier. I can relate to them and understand them. When I was an infantry soldier, I always felt like I wanted to minister to the guys instead of yell at them and order them around," he explained. "When I was in the ministry I was a little too tough to be a minister. So being a chaplain is a nice fix – I'm right at home with these guys."

On Dec. 1, Hommel received an honor he wasn't quite expecting. Maj. Gen. Gaylord Gunhus, the Army Chief of Chaplains, was scheduled to visit soldiers deployed in Kuwait during that time.

While there, Gunhus participated in an event Hommel is sure not to forget – his promotion from first lieutenant to captain.

"It's pretty exciting – I'm glad to be moving from lieu-

tenant to captain. But it just so happened that the Chief of Chaplains was going to be here on the very day that I get promoted," Hommel said.

Hommel went on to say that he had the best job in the battalion and that because of his previous experiences, he could directly relate to the soldiers he ministers to.

"I'm very interested in sharing the gospel with these guys and answering questions, and there are a lot of opportunities to do that here," he said. "Personally, I'd like to be back with my family and my two kids, but professionally, there's no better place to be than here with the soldiers right now."



Sgt. Akilah C. Clarke

Maj. Gen. Gaylord Gunhus, Army Chief of Chaplains, pins captain's rank on Chaplain Steve Hommel during a promotion ceremony held Dec. 1.

Chapel Services

Sunday

9 a.m. Catholic Mass
10 a.m. Protestant Worship
1 p.m. Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

Tuesday

7 p.m. "What Catholics Believe About"

Wednesday

7 p.m. Bible Study

Friday

7:30 p.m. Officer Christian Fellowship

Christmas Day Mass

9 a.m.

Marne Scoreboard

NCAA Football

Bowl Schedule

Tuesday

New Orleans Bowl
North Texas vs. Cincinnati

GMAC Bowl
Louisville vs. Marshall

Monday

Tangerine Bowl
Clemson vs. Texas Tech

Dec. 25

Las Vegas Bowl
UCLA vs. New Mexico

Hawaii Bowl
Hawaii vs. Tulane

Dec. 26

Motor City Bowl
Boston College vs. Toledo

Insight Bowl

Pitt vs. Oregon St.

Dec. 27

Houston Bowl
Southern Miss vs. Oklahoma St.

Independence Bowl
Nebraska vs. Mississippi

Holiday Bowl
Kansas St. vs. Arizona St.

Dec. 28

Continental Tire Bowl
West Virginia vs. Virginia

Alamo Bowl
Colorado vs. Wisconsin

Dec. 30

Music City Bowl
Arkansas vs. Minnesota

Seattle Bowl
Wake Forest vs. Oregon

Dec. 31

Humanitarian Bowl
Iowa St. vs. Boise St.

Sun Bowl
Purdue vs. Washington

Liberty Bowl
Colorado St. vs. TCU
Silicon Valley Football Classic
Georgia Tech vs. Fresno St.

Peach Bowl
Tennessee vs. Maryland
San Francisco Bowl
Air Force vs. Virginia Tech

Jan. 1

Outback Bowl
Florida vs. Michigan
Cotton Bowl
Texas vs. LSU

Gator Bowl
N.C. State vs. Notre Dame
Capital One Bowl
Penn St. vs. Auburn

Bowl Championship Series

Jan. 1

Rose Bowl
Oklahoma vs. Washington St.

Sugar Bowl
Florida St. vs. Georgia

Jan. 2

Orange Bowl
Iowa vs. USC

Jan. 3

Fiesta Bowl
Ohio St. vs. Miami

NFL

Sunday

Seattle 30, Atlanta 24
Buffalo 20, San Diego 13
Chicago 20, NY Jets 13
Jacksonville 29, Cincinnati 15
Indianapolis 28, Cleveland 23
Tampa Bay 23, Detroit 20
Miami 23, Oakland 17
Minnesota 32, New Orleans 31
Philadelphia 34, Washington 21
Pittsburgh 30, Carolina 14
Baltimore 23, Houston 19
Denver 31, Kansas City 24
NY Giants 37, Dallas 7
Green Bay 20, San Francisco 14
St. Louis 30, Arizona 28

Monday

New England at Tennessee

NBA

Sunday

Washington 95, Toronto 82
Indiana 107, Philadelphia 97
Detroit 101, New Jersey 91
Sacramento 107, New Orleans 92
LA Lakers 107, Orlando 84

Monday

Seattle at Cleveland
Denver at Philadelphia
Houston at Miami
Golden State at Memphis
Boston at Chicago
Orlando at Phoenix
San Antonio at LA Clippers

Tuesday

Washington at Atlanta
New Jersey at New York
Toronto at Milwaukee

LA Lakers at Minnesota
Indiana at Dallas
New Orleans at Portland
Phoenix at Sacramento

NHL

Sunday

Minnesota 2, Carolina 1
Phoenix 2, Los Angeles 1
Dallas 5, Chicago 0
Anaheim 5, Pittsburgh 0
Calgary 3, Vancouver 3

Monday

San Jose at NY Rangers
Montreal at Ottawa
Toronto at Atlanta
Washington at Colorado

Tuesday

Detroit at NY Islanders
Dallas at Philadelphia
San Jose at Montreal
Calgary at Nashville
Edmonton at Minnesota
Vancouver at Chicago
Pittsburgh at Phoenix
St. Louis at Los Angeles

NCAA Basketball

Men's

Top 25

Sunday

(1) Arizona 73, (7) Texas 70

Monday

Delaware St. at (24) Creighton
Montana at (20) Stanford

Tuesday

Loyola (21) at Michigan St.
(2) Duke at N.C A&T
(5) Oregon at Cincinnati

Women's

Top 25

Sunday

(9) Vanderbilt 84, Austin Peay 50
(16) Texas 106, SE Louisiana 42
(20) Boston College 88, Harvard 49

Monday

MTSU at (22) S. Carolina
Charleston Southern at (1) Duke
Stephen F. Austin at (13) Louisiana Tech

Tuesday

Elon at (15) UNC
Michigan St. at (17) Georgia
Oregon St. at (10) Texas Tech
(6) Purdue at Santa Barbara